



Michigan Crop Weather

Warm Temperatures

Five days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending July 13, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation varied from 0.25 inches in the northwestern Lower Peninsula to 1.50 inches in the west central Lower Peninsula. Average temperatures ranged from normal in the western and eastern Upper Peninsula to 2 degrees above normal in the northwestern and east central Lower Peninsula. Isolated rains fell across the State this past week dropping heavy rains in some areas and little rain in others. A farmer in the northwest reported “We were threatened all week with rain, but only less than a half inch was recorded here. It looks like I will have a decent second cutting of hay if we get some more moisture.” Crops benefited from moisture in other areas. “Varied amounts of rain and warm temperatures have corn and beans growing very well,” stated a farmer in the southwest region.

Field Crops

Good growing weather was experienced in many parts of the State this week. Some localized damage in the south central region was reported from the hail on July 2. **Corn** continued to grow rapidly and looked very good in most areas. Tassel emergence was just beginning. The condition of **soybeans** varied across the State. On well drained soils, the crop was growing well. However, there were reports of uneven growth and yellowing in fields with excess moisture. **Winter wheat** harvest was just beginning in some of the drier areas of the State, with other areas moving slowly toward harvest. Many farmers expect to harvest this coming week. Second cutting of **alfalfa** was underway for some farmers, while others were struggling to wrap up the first harvest. **Dry beans** emerged nicely this week and were off to a good start. There were a few reports of moisture damage. **Oats** were turning color and the majority had headed. **Barley** was turning and was in good condition. The **sugarbeet** crop remained in good condition.

Fruit

Apples ranged from 30 to 35 mm in the northwest to 2.3 inches in the southwest. The west central crop now appears better than earlier forecasted. **Blueberry** harvest of early varieties was underway in the southwest; fruit worm feeding was apparent. **Peaches** ranged from 1.5 to 2.25 inches in the southeast and southwest, respectively; harvest will begin this week. **Pears** grew to 1.5 inches with low incidence of disease. **Plums** ranged from 25 mm in the northwest to 1.25 inches in diameter in the southwest. **Strawberry** harvest ended and renovation began across the State. **Sweet cherry** harvest of mid-season varieties was underway in the southwest, and harvest wrapped up in the southeast. Fruit were 18 to 19 mm in the northwest. **Tart cherry** harvest began in the southwest and southeast; harvest will start early this week in the west central; fruit continued to color in the northwest. **Grapes** were at berry touch in the southwest and buckshot in the northwest. Summer **raspberry** harvest was underway.

Vegetables

Scattered rain was received early last week, but the warm, drier weather helped with crop development. Vegetable growers were concerned about foliar diseases so spraying occurred more than usual, but diseases have been well controlled thus far. **Cabbage** was being harvested while new transplants began growing. Growth of **carrots** progressed nicely, but there were reports of bacterial blight in the west central. Some **celery** and **leeks** in the southwest have been destroyed or stressed due to lack of rainfall. **Cucumber, squash, and zucchini** harvest continued with volume increasing as direct seeded fields came into production. **Onions** have not started to bulb, but fields looked good with growth at the six leaf stage and 15 to 18 inches in length. **Potatoes** were in a variety of growth stages from maturing vines to setting tubers. **Pumpkins** were blooming and runnering with powdery mildew found on some fields but were improving. The second **radish** crop appeared to be doing well. Early **snap bean** harvest began and July plantings have mostly emerged. **Spinach** harvest has been completed in some areas. **Sweet corn** improved with warmer weather and harvest from row covered plantings began. However, the crop was still behind schedule from previous years. Market **tomatoes** were just starting to be harvested and had very nice fruit quality. Processing tomato fields were also in good shape. **Watermelons** and **cantaloups** had softball-sized or larger fruit.

Soil moisture for week ending 07/13/08

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	2	9	78	11
Subsoil	1	12	78	9

Crop condition for week ending 07/13/08

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	2	5	21	55	17
Barley	1	10	27	60	2
Corn	1	3	14	53	29
Dry beans	3	6	21	54	16
Oats	0	4	22	55	19
Pasture	1	3	29	53	14
Soybeans	2	9	31	44	14
Winter Wheat	1	6	25	53	15

Crop progress for week ending 07/13/08

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Inches	Inches	Inches	Inches
Corn, height	44	32	53	43
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, first cutting	95	86	99	96
All hay, second cutting	29	17	39	35
Blueberries, harvested	15	6	11	9
Corn, silked	2	NA	23	12
Dry beans, emerged	95	89	100	100
Oats, headed	95	89	94	94
Oats, turning yellow	19	10	37	36
Soybeans, blooming	31	21	42	27
Strawberries, harvested	85	80	100	96
Tart cherries, harvested	10	7	41	42
Winter wheat, turning yellow	99	90	100	98
Winter wheat, harvested	4	0	48	18

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 07/13/08 ¹

Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2008	2007	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	88	52		806	1,128		0.79	1.11	1.97	10.34		
Marquette	82	48		752	1,060		0.79	1.11	2.37	11.59		
Stephenson	86	51		1,002	1,198		1.59	1.80	2.37	11.45		
Western UP	88	46	0	835	1,104	877	0.76	1.05	1.96	10.35	10.54	3.42
Cornell	85	47		875	1,134		1.37	1.63	2.83	10.91		
Sault St Marie	80	46		744	1,011		1.30	1.74	2.54	10.33		
Eastern UP	85	43	0	757	1,030	716	1.06	1.35	3.58	10.82	9.88	3.19
Beulah	84	57		1,073	1,233		0.46	0.96	1.67	14.82		
Lake City	82	47		1,040	1,176		0.13	0.66	1.49	16.16		
Old Mission	84	50		1,013	1,171		0.30	0.55	0.97	9.37		
Pellston	82	43		991	1,163		0.51	0.99	2.20	10.78		
Northwest	84	43	2	991	1,155	1,011	0.25	0.68	1.44	12.13	9.56	2.99
Alpena	85	50		1,022	1,178		0.70	0.79	2.88	9.46		
Houghton Lake	82	47		1,083	1,212		0.21	0.37	1.55	13.10		
Rogers City	83	48		1,033	1,200		0.33	0.51	1.90	10.45		
Northeast	85	47	1	1,049	1,191	970	0.35	0.55	2.20	10.89	9.34	3.18
Fremont	80	54		1,162	1,343		0.91	2.37	2.57	11.77		
Hart	81	57		1,104	1,261		1.90	3.49	3.97	13.84		
Muskegon	82	61		1,129	1,345		1.59	2.86	3.21	11.41		
West Central	85	47	1	1,116	1,295	1,122	1.50	2.70	3.09	13.58	9.70	2.54
Alma	85	54		1,236	1,419		0.25	0.49	1.58	7.86		
Big Rapids	83	54		1,182	1,263		0.53	1.03	2.47	9.34		
Central	85	53	1	1,199	1,338	1,182	0.50	1.04	2.04	8.32	10.36	2.97
Bad Axe	84	55		1,193	1,263		1.49	2.03	4.39	11.18		
Pigeon	85	52		1,152	1,245		0.80	1.14	3.31	8.21		
Saginaw	82	55		1,292	1,417		0.33	1.14	4.18	9.97		
Standish	84	51		1,125	1,260		0.50	0.88	2.63	9.27		
East Central	85	51	2	1,168	1,300	1,163	0.58	1.18	3.15	9.28	9.46	2.92
Fennville	84	56		1,159	1,348		1.23	1.24	3.35	15.72		
Grand Rapids	84	59		1,354	1,519		0.97	4.15	5.35	15.19		
Holland	85	56		1,334	1,489		2.14	3.37	5.41	16.55		
South Bend, IN	88	61		1,425	1,628		1.27	2.05	2.63	10.05		
Watervliet	84	58		1,286	1,476		1.26	2.61	3.52	12.56		
Southwest	88	47	1	1,370	1,466	1,271	1.43	2.97	4.07	14.07	11.17	3.09
Belding	82	56		1,205	1,350		0.54	2.10	2.53	9.54		
Coldwater	84	55		1,310	1,382		0.68	3.13	4.54	10.61		
Lansing	83	57		1,326	1,423		0.39	2.12	3.60	10.43		
South Central	86	53	1	1,282	1,416	1,266	0.85	2.76	3.76	10.90	10.93	3.22
Detroit	87	58		1,458	1,547		0.86	2.59	4.07	9.51		
Flint	84	53		1,376	1,405		0.13	1.43	2.46	8.72		
Romeo	84	57		1,276	1,343		0.48	1.30	2.78	8.53		
Tipton	85	53		1,314	1,401		1.90	5.86	8.83	14.76		
Toledo, OH	86	56		1,435	1,544		0.74	4.46	6.92	13.70		
Southeast	87	50	1	1,326	1,433	1,236	0.99	3.26	4.93	11.83	10.76	3.11

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.